

Los Angeles County Department of Public Works

Santa Anita Reservoir Sediment Removal CEQA Initial Study

- 1. Project title:** Santa Anita Reservoir Sediment Removal
- 2. Lead agency:** Los Angeles County Department of Public Works
900 South Fremont Avenue
Alhambra, CA 91802
- 3. Contact person:** Belinda Kwan, Water Resources Division
Phone: (626) 458-6135
Email: bkwan@dpw.lacounty.gov

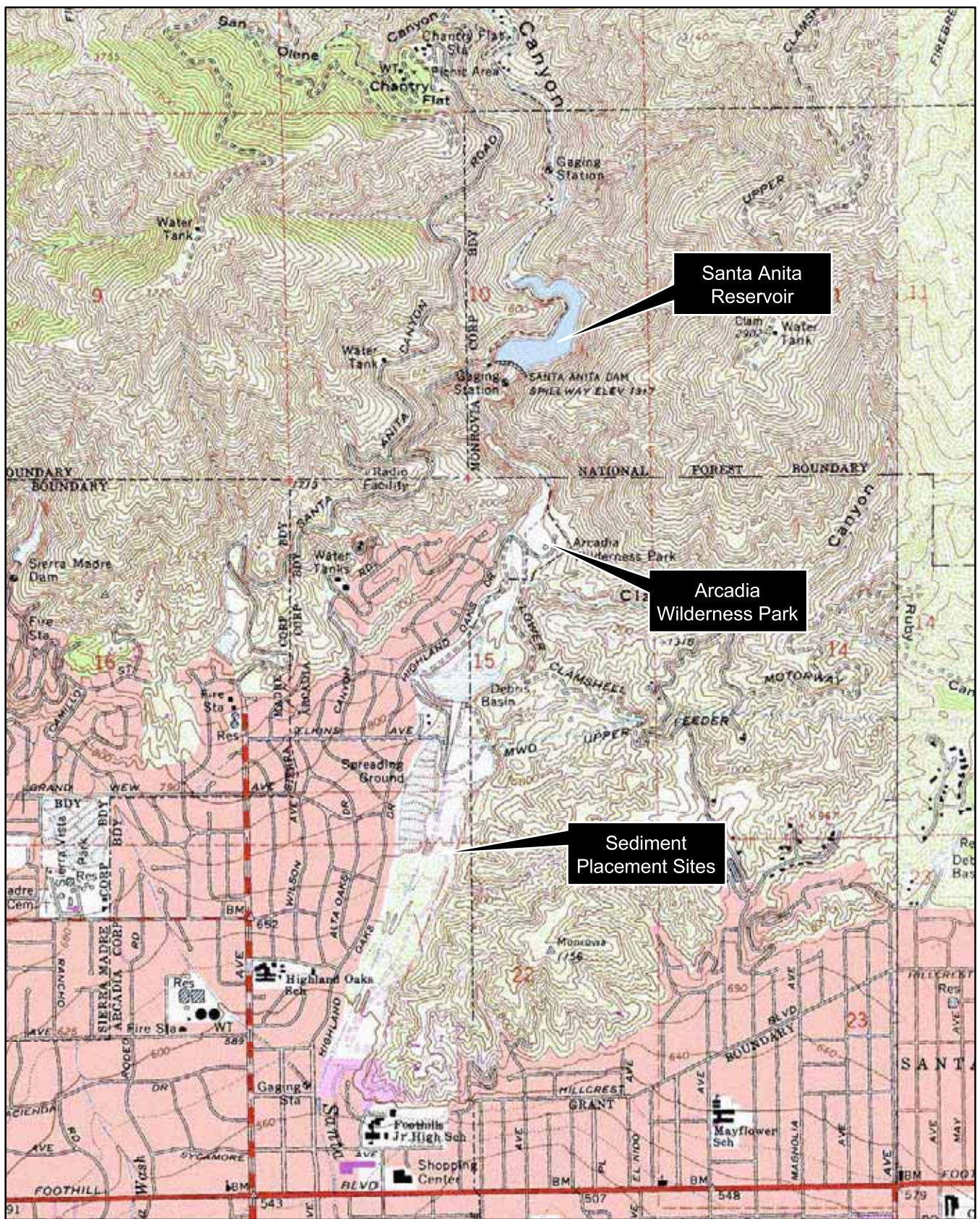
4. Project location:

The Santa Anita Reservoir Sediment Removal Project (proposed project) is located on the border of the City of Arcadia, in the western San Gabriel Valley in Los Angeles County, approximately 15 miles northeast of downtown Los Angeles (see Figure 1).

As shown on Figure 2, the project area is located on both the City of Arcadia and U.S. Forest Service land, approximately 2.5 miles north of the 210 Foothill Freeway. Land uses adjacent to the project area include the Angeles National Forest to the north, the City of Arcadia Wilderness Park on the north, single-family residential uses to the west and south, and the City of Monrovia open space to the east. The Wilderness Park is a 120-acre nature preserve located below Big Santa Anita Canyon, which is owned and managed by the City of Arcadia. The Wilderness Park consists of a passive recreation area on 8.5 acres and the balance of the preserve remains in its natural state.

The project area includes the Santa Anita Reservoir, the Santa Anita Dam, the tunnel from the reservoir to the downstream access road along the streambed, and Santa Anita Headworks, Santa Anita Debris Basin (DB), and the Santa Anita Sediment Placement Site (SPS). These facilities are owned and operated by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LADPW). The Santa Anita Reservoir, the streamside access road, and the Headworks are located in the Angeles National Forest above the City of Arcadia. The Wilderness Park, DB, and SPS are all located below the reservoir in the City of Arcadia.

The Santa Anita SPS is comprised of three sections (the Upper, Middle, and Lower SPS areas). The Upper SPS area, located in the northerly end of the SPS, is an already disturbed area that is filled to capacity with sediment from previous cleanouts of the reservoir, debris basin and other local flood



Source: USGS 7.5 Minute Quad, Mt. Wilson

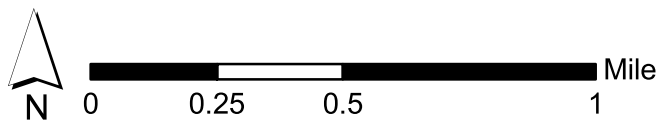


Figure 2
Vicinity Map

protection facilities. The Middle SPS area has capacity for sediment storage; apart from existing access roads it is relatively undisturbed and characterized by native vegetation. The Lower SPS area, located in the southerly end of the SPS, is an already disturbed area that contains sediment from previous cleanouts of the reservoir, debris basin and other local flood protection facilities; it has a remaining capacity of approximately 250,000 cubic yards. Subsequent to the establishment of Santa Anita SPS, several residences have been built adjacent to the Lower SPS area. The City of Arcadia has conveyed to LADPW concerns it has received from adjacent residents about the impacts from sediment placement activities in the Lower SPS area, and has inquired about the feasibility of relocating sediment placement activities away from the Lower SPS area. The location of the SPS and its Upper, Middle, and Lower SPS areas is shown in Figure 3.

The topography to the north of the project site is characterized by the foothills and steep slopes of the San Gabriel Mountains, the area to the west and south of the project area is generally flat with scattered rolling hills, and the area to the east contains mostly rolling hills.

There are two schools located within ¼ mile of the project site: the Highland Oaks Elementary School (10 Virginia Drive), located to the west, and the Foothill Middle School (171 East Sycamore Avenue), located to the south.

5. General plan designation: Public Facilities & Grounds

6. Zoning: RM (Residential Mountainous)

7. Description of project:

The proposed project consists of draining the Santa Anita Reservoir, removing sediment and debris from the reservoir by dry excavation, transporting the sediment from the reservoir (via conveyor belt and truck), and placing it in the Santa Anita SPS, as shown on Figure 4. The sediment transport route extends approximately 1.5 miles from the reservoir on the north to the sediment placement site on the south.

DAM MODIFICATION

The proposed project includes improvements to the Santa Anita Dam, which would involve modifications to the dam's inlet/outlet works, including the construction of a new riser. In order to comply with DSOD's seismic stability standards, the riser modification would be done concurrently with the sediment removal project.

The dam outlet modification component consists of constructing a concrete riser on the lowest outlet gate of the dam to El. 1,230 feet (see Figure 5). The existing trash rack in front of this gate would be moved to



Source: GlobeExplorer, 2006.

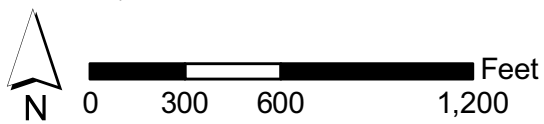


Figure 3
Sediment Placement Sites

the outside of the new riser and the existing gate would remain in place. An additional gate would be installed on the outside of the new riser. Additional slide gates may be installed on the new riser and/or the existing risers for Valves No. 2, 3, and 4, to allow for operations below the new restricted level. Installation of the new riser would allow water above El. 1,230 to freely pass through the dam, thus meeting DSOD's seismic safety requirements.

DRY EXCAVATION

The proposed project would remove approximately 300,000 to 500,000 cubic yards of sediment from Santa Anita Reservoir. Prior to sediment removal activities, the reservoir would be drained. A dry-out period, which could last several weeks, would be required before sediment removal would occur. Sediment would be removed from the reservoir and transported on the conveyor belt system described below. All sediment removal activities would occur below the elevation of 1,300 feet within the footprint shown on Figure 6.

SEDIMENT CONVEYANCE

The proposed project would transport sediment from the reservoir to the proposed SPS using an electric conveyor belt and haul trucks. The conveyor belt would extend from the reservoir through an existing tunnel that connects the reservoir to an access road located below the dam on the east side of the streambed, continuing along the access road, and terminating at a staging area south of the Headworks. Sediment would then be loaded onto the haul trucks and transported across the Wilderness Park parking lot, past the upper portion of the DB, to the proposed SPS area via an existing fire road (see Figure 4). It is estimated that about eight trucks at a time would be used to transport the sediment to the SPS.

The approximate dimensions of electric conveyance system would be approximately 5 feet wide and up to 15 feet high. The existing access road above the Headworks is about 12 to 15 feet wide, which would allow for maintenance vehicle access throughout the conveyance route. South of the Headworks, the haul route would follow the existing dirt fire road and DPW access road to the SPS.

Because modification of the riser requires the dam's outlet to be completely dry, a PVC pipe would be used to bypass reservoir inflow through the tunnel to the downstream area. The PVC pipe would outlet into Santa Anita Wash immediately south of the tunnel entrance.

SEDIMENT PLACEMENT

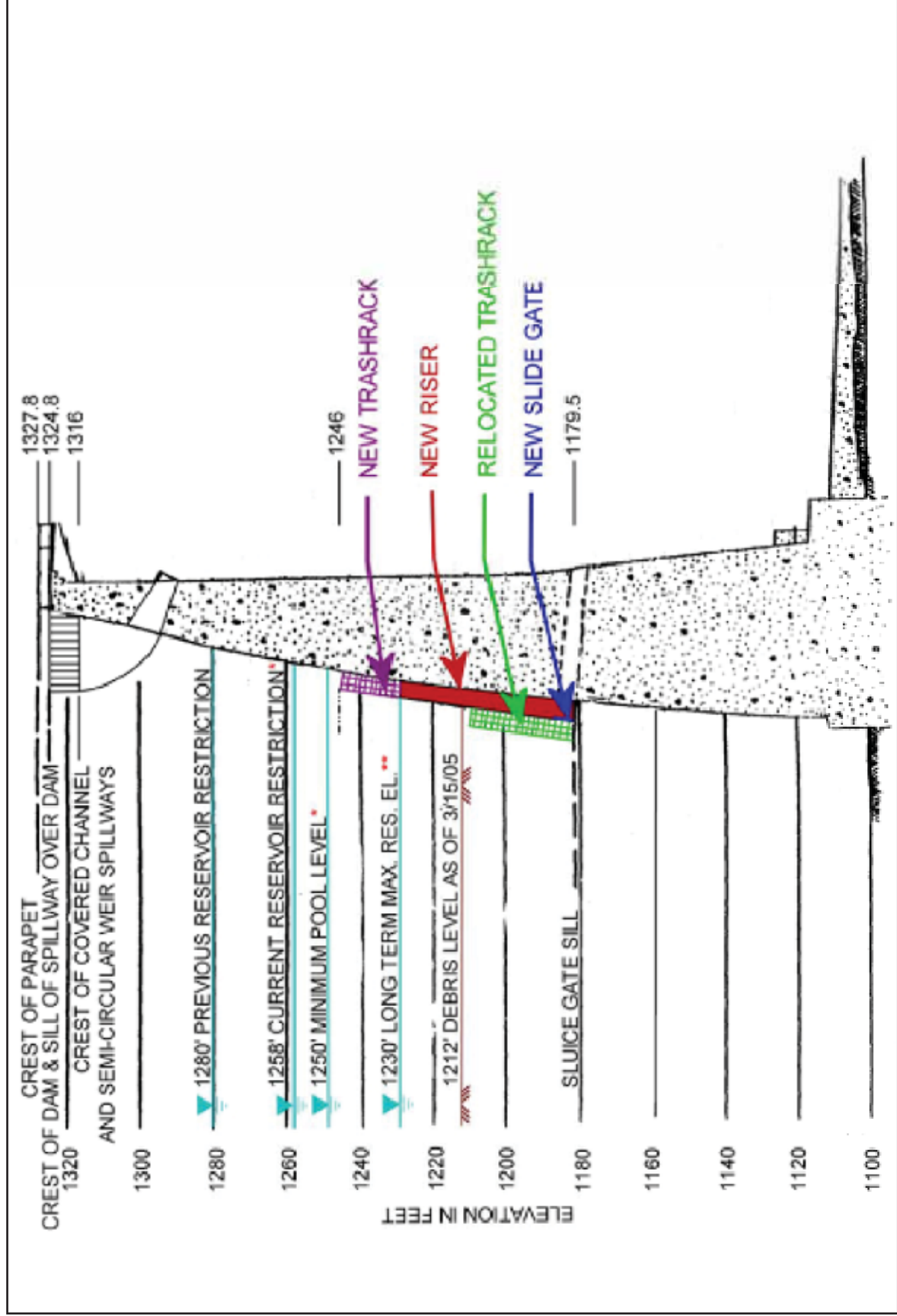
Sediment placement would occur in an approximately 13-acre area in the upper portion of the Middle SPS, located between the access road and the stream, below the existing Upper SPS (see Figure 4). The base of the 13-acre area would be tiered in order to accommodate up to 750,000 cubic yards of material. The ultimate height of the placement area would be 60 feet, as shown on Figure 7. Landscaping trees would be planted on the western edge of the SPS as a visual buffer for the residences to the west.



Figure 4
Proposed Project
Convey to Park, Truck to Sediment Placement Site



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* New restriction and minimum pool approved by DSOD in letter dated August 24, 2006

** New restricted elevation effective May 2008

Figure 5
Proposed Riser Modification

Not to Scale



Source: GlobeXplorer, 2006.

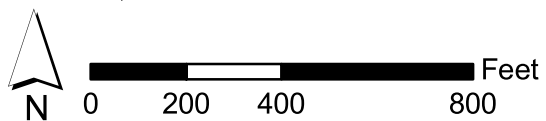
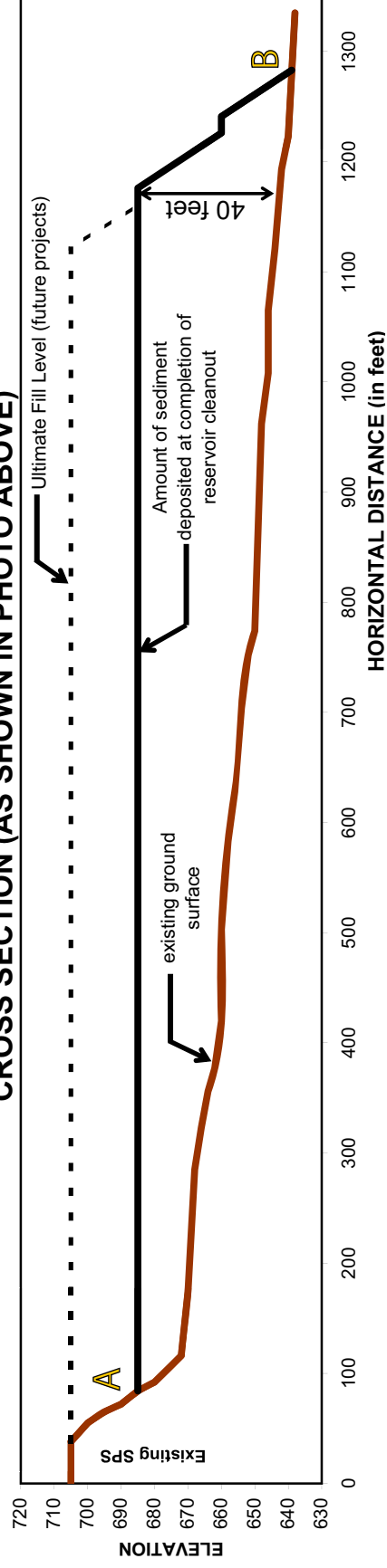


Figure 6
Excavation Area



CROSS SECTION (AS SHOWN IN PHOTO ABOVE)



Source: GlobeXplorer, 2006.

Figure 7

Santa Anita SPS Cross Section

The proposed project would require the removal of approximately 12 acres of native vegetation in a portion of the undeveloped Middle SPS. The remaining one acre of the sediment placement footprint comprises of existing access roads. Approximately 500,000 cubic yards of sediment would be transported to the new SPS as part of the proposed project. The 250,000 cubic yards of space remaining would offset the loss of storage resulting from abandoning sediment placement at the Lower SPS area. This storage would be used in future clean-out activities. However, future clean-out activities are outside of the scope of this project and would be subject to additional environmental review and analysis.

CONSTRUCTION SCENARIO

Sediment removal activities are anticipated to occur over two years from April through December of 2009 and 2010 (weather permitting). The removal of vegetation in a portion of the Middle SPS area is anticipated to occur during after September 2008 and prior to March 2009. The riser construction would likely occur from May to December 2009, although the contractor may choose an alternate construction sequence. Dewatering of the reservoir would begin in early April and last for approximately two weeks. The dry out of the reservoir would start at the end of the dewatering cycle, which is anticipated to be in early May and last up to three weeks, depending on the magnitude of recession flows and the weather. The construction activities associated with the various project components are described below.

DAM MODIFICATION

Construction of the dam riser would require about six to ten concrete mixer trucks for the approximately 60 cubic yards of concrete necessary for the modification. Additional construction equipment necessary for the dam modification would include one 10-ton truck for false works, drilling equipment for dowels, a pump unit with a generator, welding equipment for trash racks, and other miscellaneous equipment. One 8-ton lifting mobile crane would be required for lifting the lowest gate and installing the steel framing, trash racks, etc. The construction period for the dam modification is expected to last approximately three months or a total of 50 to 60 workings days. LADPW anticipates the outlet work to commence in May 2009. The dry excavation activities, described below, will clear sediment away from the work area.

DRY EXCAVATION

Construction workers would access the reservoir via an existing access road on the east side of Santa Anita Canyon Road (see Figure 6). Based on cleanout operations at LADPW's other reservoirs, construction equipment at the reservoir during the dry excavation will likely consist of three bulldozers, two excavators, and three loaders. The actual configuration may vary depending on the contractor chosen for the project. Sediment and debris from the reservoir would be loaded on to the conveyor belt using the bulldozers and loaders. Equipment staging would occur within the reservoir area and along the existing access road. Best Management Practices (BMPs) would be implemented within the reservoir area to reduce downstream water quality impacts, as described below.

SEDIMENT CONVEYANCE

As discussed above, sediment would be transported to the SPS using a conveyor belt, likely 5 feet wide, (north of the Headworks) and haul trucks (south of the Headworks). Use of this route would require clearing, grubbing, and grading of various locations along existing access and fire roads. Some vegetation clearing may be required along the access road, including a stream crossing approximately 600 feet south of the Wilderness Park parking area. No tunnel improvements would be required to accommodate the conveyor belt and PVC bypass pipe.

SEDIMENT PLACEMENT

Prior to the use of the proposed SPS, approximately 12 acres of native vegetation would be cleared, including oak and sycamore trees. It is anticipated that vegetation removal would occur in after September 2008 and prior to March 2009, outside the nesting season, to avoid impacts to nesting birds. Construction fencing would be installed along the southern boundary of the new fill area in the Middle SPS area to minimize impacts to the remaining vegetation in the Middle SPS area.

Construction equipment at the proposed SPS will likely consist of three bulldozers, one grader, and two sheepfoot rollers. The actual configuration may vary depending on the construction contractor chosen for the project. The equipment would be used for the clearing, grubbing, and any grading that is necessary to prepare the proposed SPS area. The equipment would also be used during sediment placement activities to spread and compact sediment throughout the tiered placement area. Construction equipment required for the proposed project is summarized in Table 1.

TABLE 1 CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT REQUIRED FOR PROPOSED PROJECT

Area of Site	Equipment
Reservoir (Dry Excavation)	1 Water Truck 3 Bulldozers 2 Excavators 3 Loaders
Reservoir (Riser Construction)	1 Truck 6 to 10 Concrete Mixer Trucks 1 Mobile Crane 1 Pump/generator
Conveyor Belt/Haul Route	2 Bulldozers 2 Loaders 8 Trucks
SPS	3 Bulldozers 1 Grader 2 Sheepfoot Rollers
Entire Project Site (Haul Route and SPS)	1 Water Truck

- 8. Surrounding land uses and setting:** The project area is located on both the City of Arcadia and U.S. Forest Service land, approximately 2.5 miles north of the 210 Foothill Freeway. Land uses adjacent to the project area include the Angeles National Forest to the north, the City of Arcadia Wilderness Park on the north, single-family residential uses to the west and south, and the City of Monrovia open space to the east. The Wilderness Park is a 120-acre nature preserve located below Big Santa Anita Canyon, which is owned and managed by the City of Arcadia.
- 9. Other public agencies whose approval is required:** (e.g., permits, financing approval, or participation agreement.)

Various permits and approvals would be required in order to approve and implement the project. Other regulatory agencies and local jurisdictions would also require permits or approvals in order to construct and operate the proposed project. These entitlements and permits are listed below.

PROJECT ENTITLEMENTS AND REGULATORY PERMITS

Agency	Permit/Action
Federal	
U.S. Forest Service	Special Use Permit
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers	Section 404 Individual Permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material into Santa Anita Wash.
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Section 7 consultation
State	
California Department of Fish and Game	Section 1600 Streambed Alteration Agreement
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region	Construction General Permit for ground disturbing activities; Section 401 Permit for discharge of storm water into Santa Anita Wash
Local	
City of Arcadia	Various ministerial approvals (e.g., tree removal, grading, drainage, and traffic control)
Southern California Edison	Utility relocation

ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS POTENTIALLY AFFECTED:

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics	<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Air Quality
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils
<input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality	<input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning
<input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Noise	<input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing
<input type="checkbox"/> Public Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Transportation/Traffic
<input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance	

DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial evaluation:

- ☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions to the project have been made by or agreed to by the applicant. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect (1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and (2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the project, nothing further is required.

Signature _____

Date: _____

Printed Name _____

EVALUATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS:

1. A brief explanation is required for all answers except “No Impact” answers that are adequately supported by the information sources a lead agency cites in the parentheses following each question. A “No Impact” answer is adequately supported if the referenced information sources show that the impact simply does not apply to projects like the one involved (e.g., the project falls outside a fault rupture zone). A “No Impact” answer should be explained where it is based on project-specific factors as well as general standards (e.g., the project will not expose sensitive receptors to pollutants, based on a project-specific screening analysis).
2. All answers must take account of the whole action involved, including off-site as well as on-site, cumulative as well as project-level, indirect as well as direct, and construction as well as operational impacts.
3. Once the lead agency has determined that a particular physical impact may occur, then the checklist answers must indicate whether the impact is potentially significant, less than significant with mitigation, or less than significant. “Potentially Significant Impact” is appropriate if there is substantial evidence that an effect may be significant. If there are one or more “Potentially Significant Impact” entries when the determination is made, an EIR is required.
4. “Negative Declaration: Less Than Significant With Mitigation Incorporated” applies where the incorporation of mitigation measures has reduced an effect from “Potentially Significant Impact” to a “Less Than Significant Impact.” The lead agency must describe the mitigation measures, and briefly explain how they reduce the effect to a less than significant level (mitigation measures from Section XVII, “Earlier Analyses,” may be cross-referenced).
5. Earlier analyses may be used where, pursuant to the tiering, program EIR, or other CEQA process, an effect has been adequately analyzed in an earlier EIR or negative declaration. Section 15063(c)(3)(D). In this case, a brief discussion should identify the following:
 - a) Earlier Analysis Used. Identify and state where they are available for review.
 - b) Impacts Adequately Addressed. Identify which effects from the above checklist were within the scope of and adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and state whether such effects were addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis.
 - c) Mitigation Measures. For effects that are “Less than Significant with Mitigation Measures Incorporated,” describe the mitigation measures which were incorporated or refined from the earlier document and the extent to which they address site-specific conditions for the project.
6. Lead agencies are encouraged to incorporate into the checklist references to information sources for potential impacts (e.g., general plans, zoning ordinances). Reference to a previously prepared or outside document should, where appropriate, include a reference to the page or pages where the statement is substantiated.
7. Supporting Information Sources: A source list should be attached, and other sources used or individuals contacted should be cited in the discussion.
8. This is only a suggested form, and lead agencies are free to use different formats; however, lead agencies should normally address the questions from this checklist that are relevant to a project’s environmental effects in whatever format is selected.
9. The analysis of each issue should identify:
 - a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and
 - b) the mitigation measure identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significance.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
1. AESTHETICS. Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?			X	
b. Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				X
c. Substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of the site and its surroundings?	X			
d. Create a new source of substantial light or glare that would adversely affect day or nighttime views in the area?				X
e. Create a new source of substantial shade or shadow that would adversely affect daytime views in the area?				X
<p>The proposed project site is located within the U.S. Forest Service, Angeles National Forest and the City of Arcadia. The Santa Anita Reservoir, the streamside access road, and the Headworks are located in the Angeles National Forest north of the City of Arcadia boundary. The Wilderness Park, DB, SPS, and Spreading Grounds are all located south of the reservoir in the City of Arcadia. Public views of the project site are available from the areas of the Angeles National Forest, the Wilderness Park, and City of Monrovia open space to the east. Portions of the project site would also be visible from private properties along the western edge of the DB and SPS. The short-term aesthetic impacts during construction would be minimal, involving the conveyor belt and movement of haul trucks and other construction equipment. The views from public vantage points adjacent to the project site would remain similar to existing conditions and would not change in the short-term. Upon completion of the project, the 5-acre extension of the SPS would be visible from some adjacent residences; however, no scenic vistas would be affected. The proposed project would not have an adverse effect on a scenic vista or scenic resource. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>There are no designated state scenic highways near the project site; the closest designated scenic highway is State Route 2, Angeles Crest Highway located approximately six miles north of the project site.¹ The project area is not visible from State Route 2; Therefore, adverse impacts related to scenic highways would not occur. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>Implementation of the proposed project would require clearing and grubbing of vegetation in the middle SPS including the removal of mature oak and sycamore trees. The proposed 5-acre middle SPS</p>				

¹ Caltrans. *California Highway Scenic Mapping System*. website
http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/LandArch/scenic_highways/index.htm, accessed January 22, 2007.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<p>area would accommodate up to 750,000 cubic yards of material. This area for sediment placement would extend from the existing upper SPS area to the north to the proposed middle SPS area using a tiered design with the ultimate height of the placement area approximately 100 feet above the existing ground surface. This new feature would change the visual quality of the project site and alter views from some residences to the west and east on the ridge above the project site. Changes to the existing visual character and quality of the project site will be further analyzed in the EIR.</p> <p>The proposed project would not develop or require any buildings with lighting. All construction activity would occur during the daytime. Thus, the proposed project would not create a source of substantial light or glare above the existing conditions. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>The proposed 5-acre middle SPS area would extend to an ultimate height up to about 100 feet above the existing ground surface. This SPS area would extend southward from the existing upper SPS area and would be expected to cast similar shade and shadow patterns as the current SPS property and would not substantially affect daytime views. No further study of this issue is required.</p>				
<p>2. AGRICULTURE RESOURCES. In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. Would the project:</p>				
a. Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?				X
b. Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?				X

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
c. Involve other changes in the existing environment that, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use?				X
<p>The project site is designated as Public Facilities & Grounds by the City of Arcadia and no agricultural activities presently occur on-site.² The site is not designated as Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance and there are no farmlands in the immediate project area. There are no Williamson Act contracts applicable to the project site.³ Thus, the proposed project would not convert farmland to non-agricultural uses. No impact would result, and no further study of this issue is required.</p>				
<p>3. AIR QUALITY. Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. Would the project:</p>				
a. Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?				X
b. Violate any air quality standard or contribute substantially to an existing or projected air quality violation?	X			
c. Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard (including releasing emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for ozone precursors)?	X			
d. Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	X			
e. Create objectionable odors affecting a substantial number of people?			X	
<p>The project is located in the South Coast Air Basin (SCAB), which is under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). A project is deemed inconsistent with air quality plans if it results in population and/or employment growth that exceeds growth estimates in the applicable air quality plan. The proposed project plans to remove approximately 300,000 to 500,000</p>				

² City of Arcadia. *General Plan Land Use Map*. website http://www.ci.arcadia.ca.us/docs/ch2_-_community_development.pdf, accessed March 27, 2007.

³ California Department of Conservation. *Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program*. website http://www.consrv.ca.gov/DLRP/fmmp/overview/survey_area_map.htm, accessed January 22, 2007.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<p>cubic yards of sediment from Santa Anita Reservoir and place the sediment in the SPS. Construction impacts would occur in the summer and fall of both 2008 and 2009 and no long-term operational impacts would occur.</p> <p>The proposed project does not include any residential development, housing, or large local or regional employment centers and would not result in significant population or employment growth. The proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of an applicable air quality management plan. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>The SCAQMD has established standards for air quality constituents generated by construction and by operational activities for such pollutants as ozone (O₃), carbon monoxide (CO), nitrogen dioxide (NO₂), sulfur dioxide (SO₂), and particulate matter (PM₁₀).⁴ The SCAQMD maintains an extensive air quality monitoring network to measure criteria pollutant concentrations throughout the SCAB. The SCAB is designated a non-attainment area for O₃, PM₁₀, and particulate matter smaller than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}). The construction and operation of the proposed project would contribute to an increase in air quality emissions for which the region is non-attainment. As such, air quality impacts from construction and operation of the new facilities will be evaluated using the thresholds of significance established by the SCAQMD and presented in their <i>CEQA Air Quality Handbook</i>. Short-term emissions would result from the use of construction equipment and trips generated by construction workers and haul/material delivery trucks. These emissions could result in the violation of air quality standards or the exceedance of air quality thresholds of significance, which may contribute to an existing or projected air quality violation. Therefore, air quality impacts will be further evaluated in the EIR to determine the level of significance of the short- impacts. Long-term impacts will not be evaluated, since no continual operational activities would occur as a result of the project.</p> <p>Sensitive receptors include nearby residences to the west and south of the project site, the Highland Oaks Elementary School (10 Virginia Drive), located to the west, and the Foothill Middle School (171 East Sycamore Avenue), located to the south within ¼ mile of the project site. Construction and operation of the proposed project may expose these sensitive receptors to increased pollutant concentrations. This issue will be further analyzed in the EIR.</p> <p>Some objectionable odors may be temporarily created during construction activities, which are expected to result mostly from diesel exhaust. These odors would not affect a substantial number of people and would only occur in localized areas during project construction. Impacts related to objectionable odors would be less than significant. No further study of this issue is required.</p>				

⁴ SCAQMD. *CEQA Air Quality Handbook*. November 1993. p. 6.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
4. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	X			
b. Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	X			
c. Have a substantial adverse effect on federally protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	X			
d. Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	X			
e. Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	X			
f. Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?				X
<p>Project implementation would result in direct and indirect impacts to biological resources in the project area. Several special status wildlife species have the potential to occur in the project vicinity including least Bell's vireo, southwestern flycatcher, Townsend's bat, and pallid bat.⁵ Habitat types on the project site include riparian woodland/scrub, sage scrub, and chaparral. These habitat types may contain vegetation communities that are considered sensitive by the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG). One Federal and State endangered plant species, slender-horned spineflower, has a moderate potential to occur in part of the project site.⁶ Although most direct impacts would affect</p>				

⁵ County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. *Biological Evaluation for Sensitive Species Santa Anita Reservoir Sediment Removal Project*. Prepared by UltraSystems. July 18, 2006.

⁶ County of Los Angeles Department of Public Works. *Biological Technical Report Santa Anita Reservoir Debris Basin*. Prepared by UltraSystems. July 15, 2006.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<p>upland habitats, some indirect or minor direct impacts to riparian woodland/scrub may occur along the access roads used for hauling sediments. Riparian woodland/scrub habitat in the project site may support special status species and may also be within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and/or CDFG jurisdiction associated with wetlands, waters of the U.S., or streambeds.⁷ Biological surveys will be undertaken and a detailed biological resources technical report completed for the project in order to fully characterize the existing biological conditions of the project site and to evaluate the potential impacts associated with the Santa Anita Reservoir Sediment Removal project. The technical report will be included as an appendix to the EIR and the results of the biological resource surveys will be summarized and incorporated into the EIR. If necessary, mitigation measures will be provided in the EIR to address potential impacts to biological resources resulting from the project. The project site contains mature trees including oaks, which are protected by the City of Arcadia local ordinance.</p> <p>The project site is not within a County-designated Significant Ecological Area (SEA), habitat conservation plan, or natural community conservation plan. No further study of this issue is required.</p>				
5. CULTURAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?	X			
b. Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5?	X			
c. Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?			X	
d. Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?			X	
<p>The Santa Anita Dam and Santa Anita Canyon Road were constructed more than 50 years ago and are of historic age. The Santa Anita Canyon Road would be used to transport construction vehicles to the reservoir and the Santa Anita Dam would be modified to accommodate the new riser construction. Both of these resources will be evaluated in the EIR because they may qualify for listing as a historic resource. It should be noted, however, that the segment of the road that project vehicles will be using has already undergone extensive repair and restoration work by the U.S. Forest Service, the City of Arcadia, City of Sierra Madre, and Los Angeles County in the wake of the January 2005 storm, which was a federal- and State-declared disaster.</p>				

⁷ *Ibid.*

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<p>There are also recorded cultural resources in the project vicinity and field surveys determined that there is the potential to encounter buried resources during project construction. Accordingly, a records search, site survey, and cultural resources technical report will be prepared for the proposed project. The technical report will be included as an appendix to the EIR and the results of the site survey will be summarized and presented in the EIR. If necessary, mitigation measures will be provided in the technical report to address potential impacts to cultural resources resulting from the proposed project.</p> <p>Paleontological resources are remains of plants and animals, fossilized and predating human occupation. Paleontological resources are generally found in sedimentary rocks that have been uplifted, eroded or otherwise exposed. The San Gabriel Valley is composed of alluvial fan sediments that have a range of ages coincident with the rise of the San Gabriel Mountains. Because the fans were built up naturally with sediments shed from the mountains, their composition reflects the rocks eroded by various streams. Arcadia is underlain by old alluvium consisting of unconsolidated gravel, sand, silt and clay containing decomposed boulders of granitic rock from the mountains to the north and west that form the upland portions of the City. The upper alluvium is usually a loose to medium dense silty sand underlain by discontinuous beds of moderately dense sand and gravelly sand. As such, paleontological resources are not likely to occur at the project site. The impact to paleontological resources would be a less than significant. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>No known human remains are known to exist on the project site, and the project site is not designated nor has it been designated for use as a cemetery. As with any project, if human remains are discovered in the course of project construction, the County Coroner would be contacted and provisions of State CEQA Guidelines Section 15064.5 would be followed. Given the low potential for human remains on-site, impacts would be less than significant and no further study of this issue is required.</p>				
6. GEOLOGY AND SOILS. Would the project:				
a. Expose people or structures to potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.			X	
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	X			
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	X			
iv) Landslides?	X			

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
b. Result in substantial soil erosion, loss of topsoil, or changes in topography or unstable soil conditions from excavation, grading, or fill?	X			
c. Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on-or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction or collapse?	X			
d. Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial risks to life or property?			X	
e. Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of wastewater?				X
<p>As with most of southern California, the project site is located in a seismically active region. The project site is not located within a fault rupture zone or within a currently established Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zone.⁸ There are no active faults that traverse the project site; however, the Raymond fault is a designated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones that lies immediately south of the project site and several potentially active faults are located in the project vicinity: Verdugo, Hollywood, Whittier, and Elysian Park fault zones. Although the potential for surface rupture at the site is low, the site could be subject to strong ground shaking in the event of an earthquake. Although no habitable structures are proposed, the project would result in a new 5-acre landfill in the middle SPS area. The issue of exposing people and property to potential adverse effects from fault rupture and strong seismic ground shaking will be examined in the EIR.</p> <p>According to the Los Angeles County Seismic Safety Element, the project site is located within an area identified by the California Division of Mines and Geology (CDMG) as having the potential for earthquake-induced landslides.^{9,10} In addition, the project site is located within an area identified as having a potential for seismic slope instability.¹¹ There are no known landslide areas near the project site, nor is the project site in the path of any known potential landslides. The proposed project site is</p>				

⁸ California Geological Survey. *Special Study Zones (Alquist-Priolo Map)*, Mt. Wilson Quadrangle. January 1, 1977.

⁹ County of Los Angeles. *County of Los Angeles General Plan Safety Element*. Adopted December 6, 1990.

¹⁰ California Geological Survey. *Seismic Hazards Mapping Program, Mt Wilson Quadrangle*. March 25, 1999. website http://gmw.consrv.ca.gov/shmp/download/pdf/ozn_mtwil.pdf, accessed February 1, 2007.

¹¹ Ibid

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<p>surrounded by steep topography in some areas, including a hillside immediately east of the proposed 5-acre SPS. Both landslides and lurching could potentially occur in this area; therefore, this issue will be further analyzed in the EIR and appropriate mitigation measures will be provided if necessary.</p> <p>The relatively flat nature of the proposed SPS fill area precludes it from being readily susceptible to erosion. However, construction of the proposed project would result in ground surface disruption during grading, clearing, and grubbing activities that could create the potential for erosion to occur. Erosion could also occur within the reservoir during excavation and sediment loading and along the sides of the sediment transport route. Since the proposed project site is greater than one acre, the construction contractor would prepare and comply with a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP), which would feature erosion control measures.¹² In addition, the construction contractor would comply with the Storm Water Construction Activities General Permit and obtain a National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.¹³ Adherence to existing regulations and implementation of standard construction practices would address potential erosion effects during construction. Impacts related to excavation, transport, and placement of up to 500,000 cubic yards of material will be further evaluated in the EIR.</p> <p>Liquefaction is the process in which sediments below the water table temporarily lose strength and behave as a liquid rather than a solid. Liquefaction generally occurs in sand and silts in areas with high groundwater levels. Due to the presence of loose alluvium materials deposited by the Santa Anita Wash and various creeks and streams, the project site falls within a liquefaction hazard zone.¹⁴ The proposed SPS site is located in a liquefaction hazard zone; therefore, this issue will be further analyzed in the EIR.</p> <p>Expansive soils are soils that swell when they absorb water and shrink as they dry. Pure clay soils and claystone are good examples of expansive soils. The hazard associated with expansive soils is that structural damage may occur when buildings are placed on these soils. Since no buildings or other habitable structures are proposed and the SPS would be required to comply with County design requirements and seismic safety standards, no impacts related to expensive soils are anticipated. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>Land subsidence is the loss of surface elevation due to the removal of subsurface support. Subsidence is caused by activities that contribute to the loss of support materials within the underlying soils, such as agricultural practices or the overdraft of an aquifer. The proposed project would not include any construction activities that would remove subsurface support or draw down groundwater levels. In</p>				

¹² Clean Water Act. United States Code, Title 33, Sections 101-607. Amended November 27, 2002.

¹³ EPA. *National Pollution Discharge Elimination System*. website <http://cfpub2.epa.gov/npdes/stormwater/cgp.cfm>, accessed February 6, 2007.

¹⁴ California Geological Survey. *Seismic Hazards Mapping Program, Mt Wilson Quadrangle*. March 25, 1999. website http://gmw.consrv.ca.gov/shmp/download/pdf/ozn_mtwil.pdf, accessed February 1, 2007.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
addition, no habitable structures are proposed. Thus, the impacts associated with subsidence would be less than significant. No further study of this issue is required.				
The proposed project does not include the construction of any buildings or septic system. No impacts associated with use of a septic system would occur. No further study of this issue is required.				
7. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS: Would the project:				
a. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?			X	
b. Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?			X	
c. Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?				X
d. Be located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				X
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project result in a safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area?				X
g. Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?			X	
h. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?			X	

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<p>Construction of the proposed project would not require extensive or on-going use of acutely hazardous materials or substances. Construction activities would be short-term and may occur over two years, and would involve the limited transport, storage, use, or disposal of hazardous materials. Some examples of hazardous materials handling include fueling and servicing construction equipment on-site, and the transport of fuels, lubricating fluids, and solvents. These types of materials, however, are not acutely hazardous, and all storage, handling, and disposal of these materials is regulated by the California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the Occupational Safety & Health Administration (OSHA), the Los Angeles County Fire Department, and the Los Angeles County Health Department. The proposed project mainly includes the conveyance and transport of sediment that currently exists on the project site. Adherence to the regulations set forth by County, state, and federal agencies would reduce the potential for hazardous materials impacts to a less than significant level and would not pose a safety hazard to sensitive receptors, including Highland Oaks Elementary School and the Foothill Middle School. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>The project site is not located on a site that is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5.^{15,16,17} The project site is open space and has not historically been used for industrial purposes. Accordingly, no impacts related to such sites would occur. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>The project site is not located within a two-mile radius of any public airport or private airstrip. The closest airport to the project site is the El Monte Airport, approximately 5 miles to south. As such, the proposed project would not result in an airplane safety hazard for people residing or working in the project area. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>The proposed project would not interfere with any current emergency response plans or emergency evacuation plans for local, state, or federal agencies. Access to all local roads would be maintained during construction. Equipment staging would occur off of public roads and no detours or road closures are anticipated. Sediment hauling would be limited to dirt access roads and fire roads, which would remain open during construction. Any emergency procedures required by County, state, and federal guidelines would be implemented during construction of the proposed project. No further study of this issue is required.</p>				

¹⁵ Department of Toxic Substances Control. *DTSC's Hazardous Waste and Substances Site List – Site Cleanup (Cortese List)*. website http://www.dtsc.ca.gov/SiteCleanup/Cortese_List.cfm, accessed January 24, 2007.

¹⁶ EPA. *CERCLIS Hazardous Waste Sites*. website <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/cursites/index.htm>, accessed January 24, 2007.

¹⁷ EPA. *National Priorities List*. website <http://www.epa.gov/superfund/sites/npl/index.htm>, accessed January 24, 2007.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
The project site is located in an open space area adjacent to the Angeles National Forest and the City of Monrovia open space. The potential for wildland fire is high due to the proximity of the open space and national forest that includes chaparral, brush, and trees that could be highly flammable during fire season. As described in the project description, wildfire avoidance measures will be coordinated with the U.S. Forest Service Fire Division and the City of Arcadia Fire Department prior to construction. Impacts related to wildland fires would be less than significant and no further analysis of this issue is required.				
8. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY. Would the project:				
a. Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements?			X	
b. Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearby wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permits have been granted)?				X
c. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of stream or river, in a manner that would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site?	X			
d. Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner that would result in flooding on- or off-site?			X	
e. Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff?				X
f. Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?			X	
g. Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?				X
h. Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures that would impede or redirect flood flows?				X

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
i. Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?				X
j. Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?			X	
<p>The California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) has developed a <i>Water Quality Control Plan, Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura County</i> (Basin Plan) (1994) to protect the water quality of surface and ground waters of the region. The Basin Plan designated beneficial uses, sets narrative and numerical objectives to protect beneficial uses of water resources, and describes implementation programs. Beneficial uses are processes, habitats, organisms, or features that require water and are considered worthy of protection.</p> <p>The San Gabriel River flows from the San Gabriel Mountains in the north through the San Gabriel Valley and into the Los Angeles Coastal Plain where it empties into the Los Angeles/Long Beach Harbor. Storm water runoff from the project site currently drains to the Santa Anita Wash.</p> <p>During sediment excavation, hauling, and placement, adherence to all applicable water quality requirements would be required. Because construction activities would disturb greater than one acre of land, the project would be required to comply with the RWQCBs NPDES storm water requirements. Implementation of these requirements, including preparation of a SWPPP, would address potential water quality impacts during construction; however, further analysis will be undertaken in the EIR to determine if additional mitigation measures are needed to reduce impacts to a less than significant level. Operation of the proposed project would not violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements, or exceed the capacity of the storm drain system because no operational activities are anticipated Long-term impacts would be less than significant.</p> <p>The proposed project includes the removal of sediment from the reservoir and conveyance to the SPS. Preparation of the access road for the proposed project would require the removal of vegetation at some stream crossings and some bank stabilization along the eastern edge of Santa Anita Wash. As discussed above, impacts related to erosion will be further evaluated in the EIR. Due to the amount of sediment removal that is required and the potential impacts to biological resources, an individual 404 Permit may be required for this project from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. In addition, a Streambed Alteration Agreement from CDFG may be required. These requirements will be discussed further in the EIR.</p> <p>The proposed project would not increase the impervious surface area on the project site and would not require the use of any groundwater supplies, nor would it significantly increase polluted runoff originating from the project site. During the riser modification process, dry-season flows would be diverted through the tunnel, which would temporarily bypass a 0.5-mile stretch of Santa Anita Wash</p>				

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<p>immediately downstream of the dam. This reach is already often subject to prolonged dry periods. The effects of this diversion and other short-term hydrological changes will be evaluated in the EIR.</p> <p>The proposed project does not include construction of any housing or other structures a FEMA 100-year flood hazard area. No flood-related impact will result; therefore, no further analysis of this issue is required.</p> <p>Due to the distance of the project site to the Pacific Ocean (approximately 30 miles west of the project site) and the numerous structures between the project site and the ocean, there is virtually no risk of on-site hazard due to tsunamis (seismically-induced waves). The Santa Anita Reservoir has the potential to seiche; however, during the construction period, water will be drawn down to remove the sediment, eliminating the potential for seiche during sediment excavation. Mudflows could occur during construction of the project due to the topography the surrounding the project site. However, the reservoir and debris basin would continue to provide debris and mudflow protection downstream. Impacts from inundation of a tsunami, seiche, or mudflow would be less than significant. No further study of this issue is required.</p>				
9. LAND USE AND PLANNING. Would the project:				
a. Physically divide an established community?				X
b. Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plan, specific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?				X
c. Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan?				X
<p>The proposed project would occur within the Angeles National Forest, the Arcadia Wilderness Park, and other City of Arcadia land. There are no residential uses within the project site and no roadways would be closed as a result of the project. No long-term activities would occur as a result of the project and no homes would be removed. Accordingly, no communities would be physically divided by the proposed project. No further study of this issue is required.</p> <p>The project site is designated as Public Facilities & Grounds in the City of Arcadia General Plan. The proposed sediment removal and placement in the SPS would be consistent with the adopted use in the General Plan and with the current use of the reservoir, tunnel, access roads, and sediment placement site. Therefore, the project would not conflict with the applicable land use plan. No further study of this issue is required.</p>				

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
As discussed in Section 4, Biological Resources, the project site is not located within a County SEA, habitat conservation plan, or natural community conservation plan. No further evaluation of this issue is required in the EIR.				
10. MINERAL RESOURCES. Would the project:				
a. Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				X
b. Result in the loss of availability of a locally important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land use plan?				X
There are no known mineral deposits of economic importance underlying the project site. ¹⁸ As stated in the Arcadia General Plan, the only area in the City of Arcadia available for mining activity is the Livingston-Graham sand and gravel extraction site. This site is located in the southerly portion of Arcadia, which is located north of Clark Street. ¹⁹ While the California Department of Mines and Geology has designated the project area as an area for significant mineral resources, the flood control wash, the spreading basin, and other areas managed by Public Works are required for flood control purposes, and are not available for mineral extraction. Sediment from the reservoir would be excavated and transported to a placement site less than two miles to the south. Construction activities during the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of any known mineral resource. No further evaluation of this issue is required in the EIR.				
11. NOISE. Would the project result in:				
a. Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	X			
b. Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	X			
c. A substantial permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				X

¹⁸ County of Los Angeles Department of Regional Planning. *County of Los Angeles General Plan Special Management Areas Map*. website http://planning.co.la.ca.us/doc/gp/gpMaps/08pdf_special_areas.pdf, accessed January 22, 2007.

¹⁹ City of Arcadia. *Arcadia General Plan, Environmental Resources Element*. Adopted September 3, 1996.

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
d. A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	X			
e. For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
f. For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrip, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?				X
<p>Construction of the proposed project would generate high noise levels on and adjacent to the project site. Excavation activities within the reservoir would not be expected to affect sensitive receptors, given the isolated nature of the site. Sediment hauling activities, however, would potentially disturb nearby sensitive receptors, including nearby residences to the west and south of the project site, the Highland Oaks Elementary School (10 Virginia Drive), and Foothill Middle School (171 East Sycamore Avenue). Construction activities would occur during the summer and fall of both 2008 and 2009. Construction noise would be a short-term adverse effect of the project and mitigation measures may be required to reduce these impacts to a less than significant level. Noise levels in the vicinity of the project site would not increase permanently after the proposed project is complete because no new sources of noise would occur after the construction period. Noise impacts generated by the construction of the proposed project and their effects on adjacent sensitive receptors will be further evaluated in the EIR. Noise measurements will be undertaken to accurately quantify the potential change in ambient noise levels as a result of the proposed project.</p> <p>There are no public airports or private airstrips in the project vicinity. The closest airport to the project site is the El Monte Airport, approximately 5 miles to south. Accordingly, the proposed project would not expose people residing or working in the project area to aircraft noise. No further evaluation of this issue is required in the EIR.</p>				
12. POPULATION AND HOUSING. Would the project:				
a. Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?				X
b. Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
c. Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				X
<p>The proposed project site is currently used by Public Works for flood control and water conservation. There is no residential development on the project site that would be impacted by the proposed project. No housing units or persons would be displaced as a result of the proposed project, nor would the project necessitate the construction of housing elsewhere. Some short-term construction related jobs would be created by the project; however, these jobs would be filled by existing workers in the region. The project would not be expected to increase the demand for new housing or otherwise increase the local population. No further evaluation of this issue is required in the EIR.</p>				
13. PUBLIC SERVICES.				
a. Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public services:				
i) Fire protection?				X
ii) Police protection?				X
iii) Schools?				X
iv) Parks?				X
v) Other public facilities?				X
<p>Fire protection for the project area is currently provided by the Arcadia Fire Department and the U.S. Forest Service. The Arcadia Fire Station that would respond to calls in the area of the project site Station 107, located at 79 West Orange Grove Avenue. Police protection for the project site is currently provided by the Arcadia Police Department located at 250 West Huntington Drive. The project is not expected to increase the need for police protection services, since construction activities would not change existing land uses or increase the number of service calls. Construction activities may temporarily increase the need for fire protection services, however, measures will be taken as part of the proposed project to reduce the potential for accidental fire during construction. The impacts to fire and police protection services would be less than significant.</p> <p>No impacts to schools and other public facilities are anticipated to result from project implementation.</p>				

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
No changes in existing land uses would occur and the demand for public services would not be affected by the proposed project. No further study of this issue is required.				
Please refer to Section 14, Recreation, for a discussion of the project's effects on nearby parks. No changes in existing land uses would occur and the demand for public services would not be affected by the proposed project. No further study of this issue is required.				
14. RECREATION.				
a. Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?	X			
b. Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreational facilities that might have an adverse physical effect on the environment?				X
c. Would the project affect existing recreational opportunities?	X			
The roads and trails of the Angeles National Forest and Wilderness Park would remain operational during the construction period and after the proposed project is complete. During sediment transport activities, users of Arcadia Wilderness Park would be affected by truck traffic, noise, and air pollutant emissions. Some areas of the park may be closed during the sediment hauling phase, which would limit existing recreational opportunities. No long-term impacts are anticipated; however, short-term impacts would occur, which will be evaluated further in the EIR.				
15. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC. Would the project:				
a. Cause an increase in traffic that is substantial in relation to the existing traffic load and capacity of the street system (i.e., result in a substantial increase in either the number of vehicle trips, the volume to capacity ratio on roads, or congestion at intersections)?	X			
b. Exceed, either individually or cumulatively, a level of service standard established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?	X			
c. Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that results in substantial safety risks?				X

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
d. Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				X
e. Result in inadequate emergency access?			X	
f. Result in inadequate parking capacity?	X			
g. Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation (e.g., bus turnouts, bicycle racks)?				X
<p>Construction workers would access the site on a daily basis during the various stages of project construction. The excavation and hauling equipment would be stored on-site in dedicated staging areas, reducing the number of daily construction-related trips on the local roadway network. The EIR will evaluate the affects of project-related traffic on the local streets and, if necessary, mitigation measures will be provided to reduce traffic impacts.</p> <p>The proposed project would not result in a change in air traffic patterns or result in any air safety risks; no impacts to air safety would occur. Construction of the proposed project would not generate a substantial number of new jobs, construct housing, or otherwise induce substantial population growth in the surrounding area that would increase air traffic. The proposed project does not propose any buildings that would require re-routing air traffic. The proposed project is not anticipated to result in inadequate emergency access. No street closures are proposed as part of the project. As part of the project, Public Works would coordinate with the City of Arcadia Fire Department and the U.S. Forest Service Fire Division to ensure emergency access is available to the project site and nearby residences at all times.</p> <p>The proposed project does not include the construction of additional parking areas for the short-term construction project. Construction workers would park in the designated staging areas by the reservoir and the upper SPS. Some parking areas may temporarily be removed in Arcadia Wilderness Park, resulting in parking impacts to recreational uses. This issue will be further evaluated in the EIR.</p> <p>The proposed project would not impact the circulation, roadway, or community transit in the project vicinity. Therefore, the project would not conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs supporting alternative transportation.</p>				

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
16. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS. Would the project:				
a. Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board?			X	
b. Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
c. Require or result in the construction of new stormwater drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?			X	
d. Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resources, or are new or expanded entitlements needed?			X	
e. Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider that serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?			X	
f. Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?			X	
g. Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?			X	
<p>The proposed project only involves short-term construction related to the sediment removal and conveyance. The project would not involve any short- or long-term change to the current wastewater, stormwater drainage, or water supply. The impact on utilities and service systems would be less than significant.</p> <p>Construction of the proposed project would not result in the generation of a substantial amount of solid waste. Solid waste would be limited to the riser modification component and any construction necessary for the tiered design of the proposed SPS. Solid waste could include material such as scrap lumber, concrete, other residual wastes, and garbage from the construction workers. Disposal and recycling of the construction debris would be required to comply with all federal, state and local regulations, and no impacts would occur. Compliance with existing regulations would ensure a less than significant impact to area landfills.</p>				

	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
17. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE.				
a. Does the project have the potential to degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	X			
b. Does the project have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (“Cumulatively considerable” means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	X			
c. Does the project have environmental effects that will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	X			
<p>The proposed project has the potential to degrade the quality of the environment through the reduction of natural habitat. In addition, the proposed project has the potential to reduce habitat of wildlife species and uncover buried archaeological resources. As discussed above, some sensitive species have the potential to occur in the project area that could be affected by project construction activities. These issues would be further analyzed in the EIR.</p> <p>The proposed project has the potential to result in significant cumulative impacts. It is anticipated that the project may occur at the same time as other projects in the area, and the incremental effect of this project may be cumulatively considerable. This issue will be further examined in the EIR.</p> <p>The proposed project has the potential to result in substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly. Specifically construction activities would generate traffic, noise, and air pollutants that would directly and indirectly affect nearby residents and recreational users. Further analysis will be provided in the EIR to determine potentially significant impacts and identify mitigation measure that would reduce impacts to the extent feasible.</p>				